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FOR THE CHILDREN'S SAKE.

A FEW WORDS ON NEUROTIC CHILDREN.

THAT the neurotic child is very common in the nurseries and schoolrooms of to-day, everyone whose work takes them into nurseries and schoolrooms will freely acknowledge. An element so large needs special study, so I think a few words concerning such children will not be out of place in our Magazine.

Every day it is better realised by the medical profession that wrong mental hygiene in youth may sow the seeds of intractable moral and intellectual disease in later life. This is more especially so in the case of those children who are of the neurotic or nervous temperament. In these, nervous force is highly developed. If they are understood and managed properly great things may, in God's good time, be expected of them. If, on the other hand, they are forced through the ordinary educational mill, which works fairly with the average child, we may look for irregular manifestations or explosions of nerve force during childhood, and warped and injured characters in later life. These children are bound to be unlike others, and to develop in ways of their own. In the right environment they may become the very salt of the earth; misunderstood and mis-managed they will be the lopsided and eccentric members of Society, often a trial to themselves and others.

Of the neurotic child there are innumerable varieties, and, like other children, only to a greater degree, each individual demands careful personal study from those who are responsible for its well-